



# EEP

## SOUTH CAROLINA ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

**A voluntary program for companies committed to continuous  
environmental improvement in order to protect and preserve  
South Carolina's environment.**

*Sponsored by*

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control  
Environmental Technical Committee, South Carolina Chamber of Commerce  
Institute for Public Service & Policy Research, University of South Carolina  
South Carolina Sustainable Universities Initiative  
South Carolina Manufacturers' Alliance  
South Carolina Chapter Sierra Club  
South Carolina Wildlife Federation  
League of Women Voters of South Carolina  
South Carolina Energy Office  
South Carolina Pulp & Paper Association  
South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

## *P***Purpose**

To encourage companies to become environmental leaders by making a voluntary commitment to promote and practice pollution prevention, energy and other resource conservation, and to strive for continuous environmental improvement.

## *E***Eligibility**

Any South Carolina company or facility, defined to mean any site, manufacturing or natural resource management operation, or any business or municipal activity that is regulated under any provision of the state's environmental laws, is eligible to participate. Applicants must be committed to reducing waste streams and other environmental impacts through pollution prevention activities, and/or through reducing energy or other resource consumption with the goal of improving South Carolina's environment.

## *B***Benefits**

Participation in the Environmental Excellence Program provides the following benefits:

- Public recognition among customers, business associates, the community, and the state's regulatory agencies that your company or facility is committed to environmental leadership;
- Participation in and membership on the Environmental Excellence Council which provides networking opportunities with other members, and forums to discuss regulatory issues and to exchange ideas;
- Opportunities for regulatory flexibility on identified issues;
- Eligibility for awards such as the SC Energy Office special energy conservation awards and the Governor's Pollution Prevention Awards;
- Opportunities for other environmental activities including corporate mentoring, technology transfer assistance, and information exchanges; and
- Eligibility for the South Carolina Environmental Innovations Pilot Program and United States Environmental Protection Agency's National Performance Track Program.



## *P***Program Requirements and Application Instructions**

A company or facility may become a member of the South Carolina Environmental Excellence Program by providing the following information as an attachment to the application form:

1. A brief description of your company or facility and the nature of your business. Relevant information includes products or services, general processes used, general description of raw materials used, waste generated, size and nature of workforce, and any environmental considerations particular to your site (e.g., located adjacent to river floodplain, etc.). When using acronyms, please define them within the application.



2. A brief description of the company's or facility's compliance record during the past five years, noting such things as number of permit exceedances, major violations, fines (dollar amount), civil penalties, and criminal penalties. Should a notice of violation be cited please provide a "Root Cause Analysis", counter-measures taken and how the violation ultimately affected the environment. Also, included environmental improvements made during the five-year period and any additional steps taken to prevent future noncompliance. Provide a list of operating permits, including permit numbers and issuing agencies.
3. A brief description of any existing site contamination and actions take to ensure its containment. Describe the required minimum actions to remediate.
4. Proof of commitment to environmental excellence through one or both of the methods below:
  - A. Documentation of registration, certification, or active participation in a national, regional or state recognized program or project (e.g. ISO 14001, ATMI E3 program, CMA Responsible Care program, AF&PA Environmental, Health, and Safety Principles) that encompasses the objectives set forth in 4B, or from another environmental program as evidence of commitment to environmental excellence. Documentation of registration, certification, or active membership must demonstrate that you are a member in good standing. (Provide enough information about the program so that requirements can be determined.)
  - B. An environmental excellence plan signed by the company's corporate officer or by the facility's plant manager that includes:
    - i. Commitment by senior management to establish a company- or facility-wide comprehensive environmental management system, including stated goals and objectives to enhance and improve environmental compliance through waste reductions, pollution prevention, and/or conservation of energy and other resources;
    - ii. Development of specific, measurable targets to reach the stated goals and objectives and to periodically monitor progress toward achieving these goals. The plan may include documentation, and request for recognition, of existing programs and results to date;
    - iii. Recognition that minimizing adverse impact on human health and the environment is a top priority in the company's or facility's business decisions;
    - iv. Commitment to continuous improvements; and
    - v. Commitment to effective communications with the surrounding community.
5. Electronic submission of the application in Microsoft Word format is preferred. However, if submitting a paper copy it must be printed on recycled paper and on both sides.

#### **Application Review Process**

The SCEEP Advisory Committee will review the application and may, at its discretion, request additional information or a site visit as part of the review process. The applicant will be notified as promptly as possible with results of the review.



A company or facility may not be eligible to participate in the program if there has been a pattern of permit exceedences, notice of violations, fines, civil penalties, and/or criminal penalties that indicates a lack of commitment to continuously improving environmental performance. The SCEEP reserves the right to review compliance records.

The Advisory Committee will review the compliance review submitted by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, which is included in the facility application, to determine membership into the program. Should either of the documents show non-compliance, an evaluation of the severity of the violations or deficiencies will be done on a case-by-case basis to determine membership into the program.

Membership is renewable every two years. Members can submit a renewal application form or update their original application. The Advisory Committee is responsible for ensuring that the members are making continuous improvements towards their stated goals and objectives.



*F* **For further information contact:**

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S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control  
Center for Waste Minimization  
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(803)896-8987, (803)896-8991 *fax*, [steagacd@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:steagacd@dhec.sc.gov)

*A* **Advisory Committee Members**

**Jeffery L. Beacham**  
*USC Institute for Public Service  
& Policy Research*

**Joe Brister**  
*Michelin North America*

**Allyson Bristow**  
*S.C. Pulp & Paper Association*

**Jody Childs**  
*S.C. Wildlife Federation*

**Sonny Dubose**  
*S.C. Energy Office*

**Dell Isham**  
*S.C. Chapter Sierra Club*

**Trish Jerman**  
*Sustainable Universities Initiative*

**Danny Johnson**  
*S.C. Dept. of Natural Resources*

**Mary Kelly**  
*League of Women Voters of S.C.*

**Bob King**  
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**Kristin Beck**  
*Progress Energy*

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*International Paper*

**Nick Odom**  
*Springs Industries, Inc.*

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*USC Institute for Public Service  
& Policy Research*

**Claire Prince**  
*S.C. Department of Health &  
Environmental Control*

**Gary Weinreich**  
*Weinreich Environmental, LLC*

## Application Form

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company or Facility Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Corporate Officer or Facility Plant Manager Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Above Person's Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company or Facility Location

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fax

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail



### Statement of Commitment

We are committed to improving South Carolina's environment by reducing our waste streams and other environmental impacts through pollution prevention activities and/or through reducing energy or other resource consumption. Recognizing the importance of communication among industries and the community, we commit to sharing our knowledge and expertise through participation in the Environmental Excellence Program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Corporate Officer or Facility Plant Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### Please send the completed application and requested attachments to:

Christine Steagall, SCEEP Program Coordinator  
S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control  
Center for Waste Minimization  
2600 Bull Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201  
steagacl@dhec.sc.gov